

Appl. No. 10/700,614
Atty. Docket No. 9422L
Amdt. dated 06/30/2006
Reply to Office Action of 03/30/2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising a holder for receiving a quantity of sheet material, said holder being disposed on a frame and at least two burnishes joined to said frame, wherein at least a portion of said frame is movable relative to the holder, and each said burnish ~~comprising~~ comprises an outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material, said two burnishes being disposed so that said first surfaces subtend an included angle of at least 180°, at least one said burnish being flat, and having a generally planar outwardly oriented first surface having a length and width, whereby said first surface of said burnish can contact said sheet material throughout said length and width of said generally planar first surface while said applicator is in use.
2. (Previously Presented) An applicator according to claim 1 having a major axis, wherein each said burnish is flat and has a length and a width, said length being taken parallel to said major axis, whereby said applicator can be rotated about said major axis while in use so that each said flat burnish sequentially contacts said sheet, in turn, throughout said length and width, in order to burnish said sheet against a substrate.
3. (Original) An applicator according to claim 2, wherein said burnishes may be extrapolated to intersect at a vertex, each said burnish being offset from said vertex.
4. (Original) An applicator according to claim 3, wherein said first surfaces of said burnish subtend an included angle of at least 270°.
5. (Original) An applicator according to claim 2, wherein said burnishes comprise mutually different materials.

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6. (Currently Amended) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein said burnishes subtend an included angle of less than 180° opposite said first surfaces, and said ~~applicator further comprising a holder, said holder being~~ is disposed within said included angle of less than 180°.
7. (Original) An applicator according to claim 6, wherein said burnishes and said holder are elongate, and said aperture defines an elongate slit, said slit being disposed above one said burnish when said one burnish is disposed against a vertical substrate.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~An applicator according to claim 1~~ An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising at least two burnishes, each said burnish comprising an outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material, said two burnishes being disposed so that said first surfaces subtend an included angle of at least 180°, at least one said burnish being flat, and having a generally planar outwardly oriented first surface having a length and width, whereby said first surface of said burnish can contact said sheet material throughout said length and width of said generally planar first surface while said applicator is in use, wherein said applicator is disposable against a flat substrate, said applicator further comprising a control bar for attachment to a sheet material, said control bar being movable between an deployed position and a retractable position, whereby said control bar is juxtaposable with a corner formed by said substrate when said control bar is extended to said deployed position.
9. (Original) An applicator according to claim 1, wherein said at least one burnish comprises a compliant material.
10. (Original) An applicator according to claim 9, wherein at least one said burnish comprises felt.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled)

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13. (Currently Amended) An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising a holder for receiving a quantity of sheet material, said holder being disposed on a frame and at least two non-rotatable burnishes joined to said frame, wherein at least a portion of said frame is movable relative to the holder, and at least one said burnish having has an arcuate and outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material onto the substrate, said other burnish also having an outwardly facing first surface, whereby both of said first surfaces can burnish said sheet material while said applicator is in use, said first surfaces of said burnishes being disposed in convex noncoplanar relationship relative each other, wherein said applicator comprises two burnishes, at least one of said burnishes having a first surface which is convexly shaped, each said burnish having a major axis, said applicator having a hinge generally parallel to said major axis, at least one said burnish being articulable relative to the other said burnish about said hinge.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~An applicator according to claim 13~~ An applicator for applying a sheet material to a substrate, said applicator comprising two non-rotatable burnishes, at least one said burnish having an arcuate and outwardly facing first surface for burnishing said sheet material onto the substrate, said other burnish also having an outwardly facing first surface, whereby both of said first surfaces can burnish said sheet material while said applicator is in use, said first surfaces of said burnishes being disposed in convex noncoplanar relationship relative each other, wherein said applicator comprises two burnishes, at least one of said burnishes having a first surface which is convexly shaped, each said burnish having a major axis, said applicator having a hinge generally parallel to said major axis, at least one said burnish being articulable relative to the other said burnish about said hinge, wherein said first surfaces of said two burnishes comprise mutually different materials.

Claims 15-19 (Canceled)